

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be in the Chamber for three rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 299, the Polis amendment to H.R. 1229; "yea" on rollcall No. 300, the Garamendi amendment to H.R. 1229; and "yea" on the Markey amendment to H.R. 1229.

HONORING RUTH BURR POWELL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ruth Burr Powell, as she celebrates her 100th birthday on September 24th. The Colonial Dames of the 17th Century are hosting a party in Ruth's honor on May 19th in Florida.

Ruth Burr Powell hails from Linden Michigan. She graduated from Linden High School, attended Flint (Mott) Community College, and the University of Michigan. After receiving her Master's Degree in Music and Art from Wayne State University, Ruth taught in the Detroit Public Schools.

A lifelong interest in history and genealogy led her to publish a book on the genealogy of her mother's family. Along with her husband, Harold F. Powell PhD, she inventoried the grave-sites and headstones of Fairview Cemetery. The Cemetery covers 29 acres in Linden and dates back to 1836. Together they wrote a reference book about the Cemetery still in use today. Ruth has served as the Regent of the Ezra Parker Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution; President of the Huguenot Society of Michigan; Elder of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Michigan; State President of the Michigan Chapter of the Society of Women Descendants of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company; Vice President of the Florida Genealogical Society; and she is a life member of the Linden Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. She has volunteered her time with several hereditary societies and with the Historical Collections at the Detroit Public Library and the Florida Genealogical Society Library.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in wishing Ruth Burr Powell much joy as she celebrates her 100th birthday and for many, many more years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE,
AND SACRIFICE OF MINNESOTA
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and public service of all the

brave men and women who gave their life in the line of duty.

As we celebrate National Police Week 2011, let us take time to recognize that our law enforcement officers risk their lives every day to protect our families and keep us safe. Every peace officer serving in Minnesota or any community across this country knows that wearing a uniform carries a special responsibility and exceptional risk.

Today marks nearly one year since Maplewood Police Officer Joseph Bergeron was killed in the line of duty after responding to reports of a suspected carjacking. This was a time of great pain and loss for the State of Minnesota. In the year since, the law enforcement community continues to heal from this loss and will ultimately do so because of their strength and resilience. The residents of the City of Maplewood will continue to have my full support during this time.

We must never forget the heroic sacrifice of our fallen peace officers. The valiant bravery of these brave men and women helps ensure the safety of our families and communities. This National Police Week, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the courage and sacrifice of all law enforcement officers who gave their life in the line of duty.

HONORING RABBI HERBERT N.
BROCKMAN ON HIS 25TH ANNI-
VERSARY WITH CONGREGATION
MISHKAN ISRAEL**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join Congregation Mishkan Israel and the Greater New Haven community in paying tribute to the outstanding efforts of Rabbi Herbert N. Brockman as he celebrates his 25th year of leadership at the synagogue. Rabbi Brockman is not only an exceptional religious leader, but has earned a distinguished reputation as an advocate for social justice and interfaith understanding. His commitment to these issues have enriched the lives of his congregation and fostered better communication and understanding among various community groups. In doing so, he has helped to mold the character of our community—going a long way in creating an environment of mutual awareness and respect.

Though he originally came to Yale Medical School planning to become a psychiatrist, like six generations before him, Rabbi Brockman heard a call to another purpose. Upon completion of his rabbinic studies in the Reform tradition, he served two other synagogues before finding a more permanent home at Mishkan Israel in Hamden, Connecticut.

His experiences led him to a broader world view and it has been through this holistic view of humanity that he has taught and inspired not only his congregation but the community as a whole. Rabbi Brockman holds firm to the belief that in order to really learn you must be willing to listen to opposing viewpoints and while you may not agree, you must respect that there are opinions other than your own.

He is both renowned and beloved for his encouragement of the congregation at Mishkan Israel, and the community at-large, to

challenge themselves by approaching political and current issues in different ways. In fact one of the members of Mishkan Israel was recently quoted as saying, "he has brought the congregation to a place of social participation and awareness that does not happen all the time." It has been through his strongly held view that everybody has something to offer and that everyone should be heard that he has become a community leader in interfaith relationships. Indeed, at his Silver Salute, he will be honored by an imam, a bishop, and several ministers—a testament to his advocacy and the respect he has earned throughout our religious communities.

Rabbi Brockman has inspired hundreds to not only talk about those issues that impact our community, but to act on them as well. Among those is Abraham's Tent, a program that Rabbi Brockman helped found which was created to address the problem of the many homeless men who are turned away from shelters because of high demand and limited capacity. Each week a house of worship is opened to these men so that they may have a warm place to sleep at night and volunteers from the congregation also provide them with a hot meal. This effort has not only provided shelter to many who might have otherwise been subjected to the bitter conditions of a New England winter, but has also kept the issues of homelessness at the forefront of our community's public discourse.

Through his spiritual leadership and advocacy for social justice, Rabbi Herbert Brockman has left an indelible mark on our community. His infinite compassion and commitment to service inspires others to make a difference—a gift that has and continues to make the Greater New Haven community a better place to live, learn, and grow. I am so pleased to have the opportunity to extend my deepest thanks to him for all of his good work and to join the congregation of Mishkan Israel in congratulating him on his 25th Anniversary with them. I wish him, his wife, Elin, and their children Harry and Jonathan all the best for many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING SISTER MARY ANN
SMITH**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Sister Mary Ann Smith, President/Principal of Ladywood High School, as she receives the Helen Kern Morris Award from the Father Kern Foundation and Most Holy Trinity Church, located in Southwest Detroit. Each year the Helen Kern Morris Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated a deep commitment in the Catholic faith and dedication in serving her community and the needs of the less fortunate.

Born in Bronson, Michigan, Sister Mary Ann is the third of four children born to Leo and Martha Smith. She completed her elementary education in Bronson at St. Mary's Assumption and responded to God's calling to enter the Aspirancy of the Felician Sisters. After attending both the Felician Academy in Detroit and Livonia's Ladywood High School, Sister